REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite; and claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,400,943 (Montoya).

By this amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 6-7, 9, 12, and 18. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-18 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

The Office alleges that the term "electronic purchase" is indefinite. In response, Applicant has replaced the term with the synonymous term "electronic commerce purchase." Applicant includes various definitions of "electronic commerce" in Exhibit A. As these definitions show, "electronic commerce," or "e-commerce," is commonly understood as commerce that is transacted electronically, and especially over the Internet. Further, the term commerce, and the inclusion of the term "purchase" clearly denote the electronic purchase of goods and services. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

The Office alleges that the term "login event" is indefinite. In response, Applicant has replaced the term with the synonymous term "network login." Applicant includes various definitions of "login," or "logon" in Exhibit B. As these definitions show, "login" is commonly understood as the process of identifying oneself to a computer, e.g., entering a username and password. Inclusion of the term "network" clearly denotes that the identification is performed to

gain access to a network. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

The Office alleges that the term "the internet" is indefinite and lacks antecedent basis. In response, Applicant has provided various definitions of "the Internet" as Exhibit C. In particular, Applicant notes that the claimed invention incorporates the proper noun "Internet," which refers to a specific computer network, and is frequently preceded by "the" as shown in the various definitions. As further shown in the various definitions, this term has a well-defined and well-understood meaning in the art. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-24 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

With respect to claims 1-24, Montoya fails to show the use of an "object identifier" that includes time and location information from a GPS. Since at least this aspect of the claimed invention is absent from Montoya, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

In support of this rejection, the Office cites column 4, lines 36-39 of Montoya, which state "[t]he location code may be a geographic coordinate (e.g. latitude, longitude, altitude, and time offset) or some other location identifier, as discussed in greater detail below." Applicant notes that this portion of Montoya, and Montoya in general, is devoid of any teaching or suggestion of using the location code as an "object identifier." As a result, Applicant respectfully submits that Montoya fails to disclose an "object identifier" that includes location and time information as in the claimed invention.

In the primary embodiment of Montoya, "the position analyzer 38 analyzes the positioning signal 18, determines the location of the mobile unit 14 (e.g., a coordinate), and provides the location, in the form of a signal or code, to the T/R 32... the T/R 32 broadcasts the location code, **along with an identification code identifying the mobile unit** 14, to the base station BS2." (emphasis added) Col. 4, lines 46-51. Subsequently, "whenever the MSC 11 needs to communicate with the mobile unit 14, ... the MSC 11 consults the VLR 25 and **determines the identification code that corresponds to the mobile unit** 14 and then provides the corresponding **identification code** to the LTS 17... the LTS 17 queries the database 22 to retrieve the location code that corresponds to the identification code." (emphasis added) Col. 5, lines 8-17.

Montoya teaches the use of an identification code and a location code. The identification code is used to identify the mobile unit. Montoya is devoid of any discussion regarding the content of the identification code. Consequently, Montoya does not expressly teach an identification code including time and location information. In fact, by including a separate location code, Montoya at least implicitly teaches away from including the information in the object identifier.
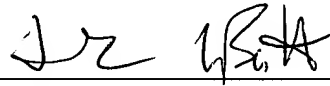
Montoya teaches storing location and time information in a location code. However, the location code is not analogous to the "object identifier" of the claimed invention. By definition, an identifier is used to establish the identity of an object. In computing, object identifiers are used in "sorting, searching, indexing, storing and cataloging information regarding such objects." Application, p. 1, lines 13-15. As quoted above, Montoya uses the identification code when performing these operations. Since Montoya teaches the use of a separate location code,

Montoya teaches away from the use of an identification code including time and location information. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

III. CONCLUSION

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Cheng	**Art Unit:**	3662
Serial No.:	09/862,732	**Docket No.:**	IBMC-0020
Filing Date:	May 22, 2001	**Examiner:**	Blum, T.
Title:	GEOCHRONICLE BASED IDENTIFICATION FOR E-BUSINESS		

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW THE CHANGES MADE

1. (Twice Amended) A system for assigning object identifiers, comprising:

a global positioning system (GPS) receiver for providing location and time information;

an identification generator that generates a unique identifier, wherein the identifier

includes the provided location and time information in an encoded format; and

a system for assigning the identifier to an object located proximate the GPS receiver,

wherein the object comprises an electronic commerce purchase.

6. (Twice Amended) A program product stored on a recordable medium for assigning object

identifiers, the program product comprising:

means for receiving location and time information from a global positioning system

(GPS) receiver;

means for generating a unique identifier, wherein the identifier includes the received

location and time information in an encoded format; and

means for outputting the identifier in a format suitable for tagging an object located

proximate the GPS receiver, wherein the object comprises a <u>network</u> login [event].

7. (Twice Amended) The program product of claim 6, further comprising means for processing

simultaneous <u>network logins</u> [login events] that occur at a common location.

9. (Twice Amended) A system for processing object identifiers in the Internet, comprising:

a database for holding objects;

at least one identification system for providing unique identifiers for objects, wherein the

identification system obtains location and time information from a global positioning system

(GPS) and encodes the location and time information into each unique identifier; and

an application for processing the objects, wherein the application includes a system for

processing the unique identifier, and wherein the objects comprise one of computer hardware

devices, <u>network logins</u> [login events], and electronic <u>commerce</u> purchases.

12. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the objects comprise <u>network logins</u>

[login events] and the time checking system compares a time difference between <u>network logins</u>

[login events].

18. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 9, wherein the objects comprise electronic <u>commerce</u>

purchases, and the application validates each electronic <u>commerce</u> purchase.